

soon as the officers, who have in charge this preparation, have made out the necessary statements.

Very respectfully, yours &c.

FRANCIS THOMAS, *President.*

His Excellency,

WM. GRASON, *Governor of Maryland.*

*Report of Ellwood Morris, Chief Engineer of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal.*

CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO CANAL LINE,  
December 31st, 1840.

*To the President and Directors of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal.*

GENTLEMEN :—Pursuant to your order of December 15th 1840, directing me to report, —1st. Generally upon the State of the work above dam No. 6.—2nd. Upon its probable aggregate cost, and the amount of work now done and to be done &c. &c.

I have the honor to submit the following Report, which though somewhat more general, will be found to comprise the 1st head of your instructions.

And with a view to perspicuity, I propose to treat the subjects considered, in three divisions :

- 1.—Entering succinctly into the history and design of the work, viewing it as a route connecting the Western waters with the sea.
- 2.—Treating of the canal now under construction from Cumberland 50 miles down stream to dam No. 6.
- 3.—Noticing briefly the condition and prospects of the finished Canal, now navigated upstream from Georgetown to dam No. 6. a distance of 134 miles.

It was both my wish and design to accompany my report at this time with a minute estimate of the probable cost of completing the unfinished 50 miles, and of the work done and to be done as required by the 2nd head of your instructions :

But, owing to an unavoidable absence from the line during all November, in attendance upon the United States Court, and also to the absence of certain original data—officially prepared in 1839 by the numerous officers then in service and deposited in the office of the Chief Engineer at Cumberland ; which data, it is singular, is not now to be found either there or in the Canal Office at Frederick, having evidently been abstracted by some one—I find myself unable to accomplish that pur-